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Document Number 1

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File: USPT

Feb 13, 1990

US-PAT-NO: 4901209

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4901209 A

TITLE: Illuminated bicycle frame

DATE-ISSUED: February 13, 1990

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

| NAME | CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE | COUNTRY |
|----------------|----------|-------|----------|---------|
| Nitz; James C. | La Jolla | CA | 92037 | N/A |

US-CL-CURRENT: 362/473; 280/281.1, 280/288.4, 362/500, 362/511, 362/554

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. An illuminated bicycle comprising:

a body frame having a top tube, a bottom tube and a seat tube; said tubes being hollow and being made of translucent plastic material that allows light to be transmitted radially through their side walls;

a front wheel and a rear wheel;

means for mounting said bicycle body frame on said wheels;

a high intensity lamp having a front end and a rear end, said lamp being mounted at a predetermined location within one of the hollow tubular members of said body frame;

a bundle of flexible elongated optical fibers having a first end and a second end, the first end of said optical fibers being positioned adjacent the front end of said high intensity lamp so that light therefrom would be transmitted through said optical fibers, said optical fibers being threaded throughout the hollow tubular members of said bicycle frame so that when said lamp is illuminated said bicycle frame will glow and make it highly visible at night;

a source of electrical power electrically connected to said high intensity lamp; and

an electrical switch connected to said source of electrical power.

2. An illuminated bicycle as recited in claim 1 wherein said electrical switch is mounted on the exterior of one of the hollow tubular members of the bicycle frame.

3. An illuminated bicycle as recited in claim 1 wherein said source of electrical power are batteries.

4. An illuminated bicycle as recited in claim 3 wherein said batteries are mounted in one of said hollow tubular members adjacent said high intensity lamp.

5. An illuminated bicycle as recited in claim 1 wherein said source of electrical power is a generator mounted adjacent the front wheel of the bicycle.

6. An illuminated bicycle as recited in claim 1 wherein at least one of said wheels has hollow tubular spokes, a high intensity lamp is mounted in at least one of said tubular spokes, and a bundle of elongated optical fibers are positioned within said spoke and extend throughout its length so that when said lamp is illuminated the bicycle spoke will glow and make it highly visible at night.

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